approved including name of the Indian company, name of the foreign collaborator and the country to which it belongs, item of manufacture, percentage and amount of foreign equity participation in each proposal are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to their monthly Newsletter. Copies of the Newsletter are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

Since approvals for joint venture proposals are accorded on the receipt of application from the entrepreneurs, future projections cannot be made.

Medical Insurance Scheme

425. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have held any discussions with some of the leading Australian Health Insurance Companies to formulate a proposal for introducing Medical Insurance Scheme in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the provisions to be made for poor people, who are not in a position to be the member of the scheme; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented and whether the medical treatment would be of international standard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) The possibility of expanding health coverage through insurance schemes has been discussed with numerous organisations who have had experience in this area including the Australian health insurance authorities.

(b) and (c) Health insurance schemes working in other countries generaly stipulate compulsory payment of a percentage of salary towards such coverage, which is not relevant in a country where earning capacity is very low. The details of catalyzing efforts to establish health insurance schemes are presently under examination in consultation with National and International agencies who have experience in providing health insurance.

US arms supply to Pakistan

426. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the US decision to resume arms supplies to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE AND DEPTT. OF DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the recent US decision to supply certain military equipment, earlier embargoed under the 'Pressler Amendment' to Pakistan. US Government have stated that this is being done as a one time exception to the Pressler Amendment. A close watch is kept by Government, on all such developments which have a bearing on national security, for initiating appropriate measures to ensure adequate defence preparedness to meet the emerging challenges.

Industries in backward districts of Tamil Nadu

427. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has received proposal to start industries